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GROWING WEALTH OF ISLAND OF PORTO RICO

Commissioner Degetau Talks With Mr. Carpenter on Business Conditions There.

MUCH MONEY MADE IN SUGAR

Two Thousand Plantations Yield Large Supply—Coffee, Pineapples, Oranges, Tobacco.

By Frank G. Carpenter.

(Special Correspondence of The Times-Dispatch)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 28.—It was in his home on P Street, near Dupont Circle, that I chatted last night with Frederico Degetau, resident commissioner from Porto Rico, on the present conditions in our West Indian island.



FREDERICO DEGETAU, Resident Commissioner from Porto Rico to the United States.

product and that it will have the position that the best of Java coffee has now.

"I think it will eventually bring the highest prices of any coffee in the American markets. When that time comes our coffee will be one of the richest States of the American Union."

"How about your sugar plantations?" I asked. "The conditions vary in different branches of industry. In some our people are better off than ever, and in others they are worse off than they were before the war."

"Where are your best sugar lands?" "In the coastal plain which borders the island and on the Rio Grande bottoms. The most of the island is high and mountainous, and the sugar lands must be limited. As it is, we have now about 2,000 acres in cultivation, and we produce more than 200,000 pounds of sugar per year. In other words, we raise enough sugar to feed every man, woman and child in the United States every year. In addition to these sugar lands there are some devoted to pasture which might be used for sugar. Altogether we have about 2,000 plantations.

"What are sugar lands worth, Mr. Degetau?" "They are very valuable," replied the commissioner. "I have seen some of the best of them offered for sale. We have plantations that are worth \$50 per acre and upward."

"Coffee Lands Cheap." "How about the coffee industry?" "I am sorry to say that the coffee planters are not doing well," replied Mr. Degetau. "This is a serious thing for the industry. Before the war our principal markets were Spain and Cuba. In those countries our coffee was considered the best as it is in France and other parts of Europe to-day. Spain took the bulk of the crop at high prices and Cuba bought largely. After the war Spain put such a tariff on Porto Rican coffee that we lost the Porto Rican market and the Cuban market is seldom offered for sale. We have plantations that are worth \$50 per acre and upward."

"Money in Fruits." The conversation next turned to the fruit industry, and Mr. Degetau venturing upon the subject of the chief orange and pineapple plantations of the United States. He says the fruit lands are being taken over and that many Americans have come there to raise oranges. He cited one instance of a man who was offered a job in Florida and had recently lived in Florida and had just begun to raise oranges in Porto Rico. He would not give up his prospects of making a fortune out of the fruit raising in Porto Rico for \$25,000 a year, much less \$500. The island is such that there is no frost, oranges grow luxuriantly and the oranges are of the best quality. He said that the oranges will make the Porto Rico orange one of the best. A present the transportation facilities

part of the world, and we can sell all we can raise.

"I would you advise young Americans to go to Porto Rico to make their fortunes?" "Not if they are poor," replied Mr. Degetau. "If they have some money and the young Americans have some money and at the same time they have a special knowledge or ability, he can do well in Porto Rico. The more money he has the better he can operate."

"There is a great opening for building, railroad building and business of various kinds. The Porto Rican market is the largest in the United States, and the interest rates range from twelve per cent. down to six per cent. The legal rate is six per cent. There are also opportunities for investment in the island. There are also opportunities for investment in the island. There are also opportunities for investment in the island."

Investments in Railways. I asked Mr. Degetau to tell me something about the railway possibilities of the island. He replied:

"The Porto Rican market is the largest in the United States, and the interest rates range from twelve per cent. down to six per cent. The legal rate is six per cent. There are also opportunities for investment in the island. There are also opportunities for investment in the island. There are also opportunities for investment in the island."

"There is no more beautiful country in the world than the interior of Porto Rico, and I know of no country so beautiful."

"Mr. Degetau continued: 'A short distance back from the coast there are hills which are green all the year around. It is never cold and never very hot. The Porto Rican market is the largest in the United States, and the interest rates range from twelve per cent. down to six per cent. The legal rate is six per cent. There are also opportunities for investment in the island. There are also opportunities for investment in the island. There are also opportunities for investment in the island.'

Glad to be Americans. "How are your people satisfied with American rule? Are they glad of the change?"

"They are glad to be Americans," replied the commissioner from Porto Rico. "Although it is undeniable that they are dissatisfied in some respects, they are glad to be members of our great American Commonwealth. They are glad to be members of our great American Commonwealth. They are glad to be members of our great American Commonwealth."

"I am sure that Porto Rico will, within not many years, be a part of the American Union, and that the Union will be as proud of us as we are proud of being American citizens."

"I here asked Mr. Degetau whether the Porto Ricans would make good American citizens. He replied: 'They are naturally quiet and law abiding. The island has been always ruled by one or two families and the people have high ideas of honor and justice. They are intelligent, and through their schools and their own initiative since the occupation they are rapidly becoming educated.'

"How many colored people in Porto Rico?" "Nothing like so many as in most of the West Indies," replied Mr. Degetau. "We have about 20,000 pure negroes and about 300,000 mulattoes. The balance are whites, so that about one-fourth of the whole population is white."

Our Porto Rican Visitors. "Tell me something about the school teachers who are coming to the United States."

"You mean those who are to be brought by the transports to spend the summer, I suppose," said Mr. Degetau. "They are brought here by the transports and the trip will be valuable to them and our schools. We have bright teachers. In some respects, I think, they surpass the American teachers. They have good imaginations and learn easily, but so far they are not so well educated as the American teachers. This trip to the United States will be very beneficial to them and give our children a practical knowledge of the United States. As a result of this trip, we have had three times as many pupils as we had before the war. There is a high school in the island and we have a number of agricultural schools in different parts of the island."

A HIGHLAND CHARACTER. Accomplished in Mathematics and Latin and Greek.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) MONTEREY, VA., May 28.—Highland county has an orphan on her hands, in the person of a "fellow citizen" of middle age, who refuses to remain at the Parish farm and will not be tolerated elsewhere. Committed to the almshouse one year ago, Henry Daniel Carver became dissatisfied with his new abode and "took to the road." He was allowed to tramp the county until two months ago, when he was taken sick at a Back Creek farmhouse. Overseer J. K. Kramer assisted him to the home for unfortunate in Crabhook, where he remained until last week. He is now at large, and his fate is uncertain.

"What other industries have you?" I asked. "We have some excellent tobacco plantations which produce the Porto Rican tobacco as Cuba, and a great deal of our tobacco goes to Cuba and is exported thence as the best Havana. Not long ago some of the Cuban farmers objected to the importation of Porto Rican tobacco on the ground that the Havana exporters were using it and that its quality was such that it would injure the Havana brands. Inasmuch as the exporters had most to lose by such an injury, the complaint should have come from them. The tobacco is grown well up in the mountains, and there are large plantations near Cayey and elsewhere. There are cigar factories in both city and country, and in San Juan there is a cigarette factory which makes about 100,000 cigarettes a day."

"That are the prices of tobacco lands?" "They vary according to situation and quality. Very good lands can be bought from \$50 to \$100 per acre."

A Stock Country. "Tell me about your Porto Rican cattle?"

Said Mr. Degetau: "Porto Rico has great possibilities as a stock-raising country. We have something like 200,000 cattle, and we raise as fine a grade of stock as anywhere. Our cattle are noted for their beautiful hides. Indeed, one of the South American ranches which has been bought off on other stock admits Porto Rican stock to be of this account. The animals are usually of a dun color. They are heavy framed and fine boned. They are said to be the descendants of Andalusian and African cattle which were brought to the island by the Spaniards. 'Have you much good pasture land?'"

"Plenty of it. The grass is green all the year around. It grows luxuriantly, and the expense of keeping stock are low."

"What other kinds of stock have you?" "I have horses, hogs, goats, mules, sheep and donkeys. We have altogether about 200,000 head of stock, and as a whole more than one million acres in pasture. I think there is a great deal to be made in stock raising."

"How about your markets?" "We have all the West Indies and all the countries of South and Central America along the Caribbean Sea. Live stock and dried beef are in demand in that

HANOVER NEWS. A Splendid Picnic Held on Pamunkey's Banks.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) OLD CHURCH, VA., May 28.—An enjoyable picnic was given Wednesday on the Pamunkey. The features of the day were boating, fishing, base-ball and hot, but not least, eating. A most beautiful dinner, consisting of the delicacies of the season, lamb, chicken, ham, straw-berries, apples, bananas, pineapples, cake, lemonade and ice cream, was served on the lawn. Several effective snap shots were taken by Mr. W. H. Beal, of Washington, D. C., in the course of the day. Among those present were: Rev. and Mrs. S. A. Southern, Rev. and Mrs. F.

40-inch White India Linen, the regular loc quality, Monday, 5 1-2c. \$1.25 Lawn Wrappers, Monday, 89c. 12 1-2c. Sea Island Percaloes, 36-inches wide, Monday, 6 3-4c. Julius Sycle & Sons YOU CAN HAVE YOUR PURCHASE CHARGED. A Big Sale Muslin Underwear! SEE THE \$1.00 COUNTER.

Dress Goods Bargains. 8c Black Mohair, 44 inches wide, 69c. \$1.39 Voiles, black and all colors, 98c. \$1.69 Skirting, 54 inches wide, \$1.19. \$1.00 Foulard Silks, 69c. Thin Dress Goods. 8 1-3c a yard for 10c Lawn. 12 1-2c a yard for English Batiste Lawns. 12 1-2c a yard for Knickerbocker Voiles. 25c a yard for Cotton Etamines.

Silk Mulls. Another lot just received, over 5,000 pieces, all colors; these are 17c the regular 25c kind, for yard. Dotted Silk Mulls. The same kind you will pay elsewhere 37 1-2c, here, Monday, 25c. Oil Cloth Tracking. All new designs, 10c. Linen for Shirt Waists and Dresses. At 39c a yard, White Linen, one yard wide, regular 50c. Homepun Linen, in all colors, 25c. At 19c a yard, regular 25c. Artillery Cloth. Looks like linen, will wear just as well, will remain a clear white when washed; special, per yard, 12 1-2c. Sale of Towels. A Pure Linen Huck Towel, 5x11; regular 15c value, 12 1-2c. Extra Large Plain Finished Danish Towel, big value, 25c. 10c. Bath Towel Mats, 50c. White Bed Spreads—Four Big Bargains. \$1.00 kind, 89c. \$1.25 kind, \$1.00. \$2.00 kind, \$1.50. \$2.50 kind, \$1.75. 1-bil. Linens. At 25c Turkey Red Table Linens, well worth 30c a yard, fifty-eight inches wide. Special quality of Bleached and Unbleached Table Linen, per yard, 50c, to \$1.00. White Goods. Lace Stripe Muslin, sold for 15c to 20c a yard. 40-inch White India Linen, regular 12c kind; Monday, per yard, 12 1-2c. Boys' Shirt Waists. At 39c Boys' Percaloe Waists that sold for 50c. Men's Night Shirts. 75c and \$1.00 Men's Night Shirts, with and without collar, large, 50c.

Monday's Specials. Featherbone Collar Foundations, sell for 10c. Ladies' Pure Linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, 5c, a cake, Palm Soap. At 5c Allen's Tooth Powder, good as Lyon's. At 1c Tallow's Face Powder, Swan's Down, sells for 10c. Wash Duck Belts. Everitt Dress Gingham, sell for 10c. Remnants of Madras, sold for 12 1-2c. At 8c Apron Gingham, sell for 7c. At 63 1-2c Yard Wide Bleach Cloth, sells for 6 1-2c. At 5c Pearl Buttons, sell for 10c. A dozen, Shell Hair Pins, worth 25c a dozen. Children's Muslin Drawers. Children's Underbodices. Figure Denim, sells for 25c. Silk Bows for men, regular 25c kind. At 5c Turnover Embroidery Collars, worth 10c. At 19c & 25c Embroidery Stock Collars, worth 35c and 50c. Sheet and Pillow Cases. Full Size Hemmed Pillow Cases, regular 12c kind. Bolster Cases, regular price 32c. Full Size Bleached Sheet, with deep hem; regular price, 75c. A Hemstitched Sheet, made of good cotton; regular price, \$1.00. Sheeting. Bleached and Unbleached Sheeting, 10-4; regular price, 25c. 5c Yard Wide Unbleached Sheeting, regular price 6 1-2c. Corset Bargains at 39c. At 39c a Batiste Corset, in all shapes, four styles to select from; regular 50c kind, here Monday for 39c. The Thomson Glove Fitting Corset, called Miltant; the same corset sells for \$1.00 elsewhere.

Leather Goods. Shopping Bags, large size, worth 50c. At 25c Peggy Bags and other light bags, sold for 75c, and 100c. At \$1.00 Black and Tan Peggy Bags that sold for \$1.60. Shirt Waist Bargains. \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50 White India Linen, Persian Lawn and English Batiste Waists, all wool, trimmed; special Monday. A Big Bargain. 75c and \$1.00 Colored Madras Waists. The \$1.00 White Waists. Underskirt Bargains. Black and Mercerized Underskirts, deep ruffle, with four small ruffles; worth nearly double. Monday for \$1.00. Men's Nelligee Shirts, 50c. 100 Men's Shirts, ten neat styles, in corded madras, printed designs on white grounds, under the price, because the maker wanted to make some money out of a lot which had been contracted for. A rare opportunity, considering high cost. Plenty of solid white, a big bargain for \$1.00. Men's Underwear. At 25c Men's White Gauze well worth 35c, apiece; special Monday, 25c. Our 50c Men's Gauze Underwear to be sold here for, apiece, 39c. Trunks and telescopes. If you have any idea of travelling, come and get our price before buying. \$5 Canvas Trunk, well made, sheet iron bottom, extra strong \$4.39, rivet, special. Sale of Trunks at \$5, \$6 and \$7, all worth nearly double. Telescope, sold for \$5, all leather, extra size, special \$3.75. We have cheaper and better ones, all marked at quick moving prices. Muslin Yokes. Impossible for print to tell you about them; large variety of styles, 25c, 50c, 75c, 100c, to \$5.

The Value of Your Watch should be preserved. If your Watch fails to keep correct time—five minutes fast one day, three minutes slow the next—bring it to us and let us clean, repair and regulate it. We are every day performing this good service for many of our customers. We know how, for we are Watch Inspectors for four railroads—the S. A. L., Southern, C. and O. and N. and W. J. J. Allen & Co., Jewelers, 14th & Main Streets.

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Bread the Staff of Life, THEREFORE EAT THE BEST. Two things are essential—good flour and the best YEAST CAKE. The FULTON YEAST CAKE is an absolutely pure vegetable product, made in round cakes, from the purest water-ground Virginia cornmeal, hops, sugar and potatoes. The cakes are perfectly dry and will keep for several months without losing its strength. It is Nutritious, Economical and Healthful, and for Making Light, Sweet, Wholesome Bread it Has No Equal. It is recommended and endorsed by eminent physicians and the best cooks and will keep in any climate for three months without losing its strength. UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS. Clarksville, W. Va., April 4, 1904. Fulton Yeast Co., Richmond, Va.: Gentlemen:—Enclosed please find stamps for one package of your yeast. To introduce the yeast last year I several times made small pan of rolls and sent them to the store as a sample and all who saw them said that it was the most beautiful bread they had ever seen. Very truly yours, MRS. H. V. MOULTON, Whitestone, Va. New Plymouth, Va., April 1, 1904. Fulton Yeast Co.: Dear Sirs.—I enclose stamps. Please send me a package of your yeast at once. I have tried your sample cake and it gave perfect satisfaction. MRS. R. F. JAMERSON, Charlotte, C. H., Va., April 6, 1904. Fulton Yeast Co.: Dear Sirs.—Enclosed find stamps. Please send six of your cakes. We were delighted with it. Respectfully yours, MRS. EMMA LEE GUTHRIE. We have several thousands of these unsolicited testimonials, which speak for themselves. A Sample Will be Cheerfully Sent Free of Cost Upon Request. THE FULTON YEAST COMPANY (Inc.), RICHMOND, VA.

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